

St. Albans C 2 Wycombe W 1

WYCOMBE suffered a blow to both their Amateur Cup hopes and their Isthmian League chances when former international winger Len Worley was carried off after 19 minutes with severe bruising of the leg which he previously broke.

But still Wycombe went down fighting.

Indeed, they took a shock lead in the 51st minute with a hit-and-miss affair—Bates crossed, Horseman missed, and Merrick hit it into the net.

Four minutes later Butterfield headed the St. Albans' equaliser, but it was not until Desmond scored seven minutes from the end that St. Albans finally clinched the game. The men of the match were Roy Agar and David Lawrence for St. Albans, but neither of these could match the prodigious energy of the Wycombe right-half Baker.

WYCOMBE FAIL TO BREAK DEFENCE

Sports Mail Special Report

WYCOMBE Wanderers failed to break St. Albans defence in their Isthmian League game at St. Albans and lost 2—1.

St. Albans: Fowler; Lawrence, Last; Nisbett, Bromley, Wood; Gladwin, Agar, Butterfield, Desmond, Wing

Wycombe Wanderers: Maskell; Bradshaw, Beck; Baker, Rundle, Gale, Worley, Roystone, Bates, Horseman, Merrick.

Referee: F. Williams (Hornchurch, Essex).

Keith Samuels's knee injury having failed to respond to treatment, Wycombe brought in Peter Roystone at inside left.

Wycombe's first real effort came in the sixth minute when Worley tricked two defenders to shoot low across the goal-mouth. Lawrence cleared.

In the 12th minute Bates went through and shot wide when well placed.

Desmond's shot hit the side netting after Rundle had mis-kicked. Len Worley was injured after a collision with Wood in the 18th minute and was carried off.

On the half-hour Merrick had a good shot saved by Fowler and the game deve-

loped into end-to-end football dominated by two tight defences.

Maskell saved a hard Gladstone shot and Desmond shot just over from close in.

Half-time: St. Albans 0 Wycombe W. 0.

Worley failed to re-appear in the second half. The knock he received on his right ankle bone aggravated the spot where he broke a leg some years ago.

Twelve minutes after the re-start MERRICK put Wycombe ahead with a good shot from Bates's pass after Horseman had miskicked.

BUTTERFIELD equalised for St. Alban's with a fine header and the visitors' strength began to wane after being one man short for so long.

DESMOND scored the winning goal.

RESULT:

ST. ALBANS 2
WYCOMBE WAN. 1